



*Koma 50 = outdated term, model

Lesson 15

HOW TO DRAW MAHJONG MANGA





NEWS

MANGA IN A NUTSHELL

You don't have to know anything about mahjong to draw mahjong manga! Right, since if you can draw, you have something to say about that. Yes, look, if you always had to rely on your own experience to draw something, then repetitive situations would all be raising several screaming points.

In fact (apparently) there are plenty of mahjong manga artists out there who don't know the first thing about mahjong. You'd be shocked that some really professional artists (apparently) can't play a Jack 'Well' - we're not in the biz of winning. How do? mangaists here. You can learn the

rules and moves on your own. And if you're as good at drawing mahjong like this, then I worry there are assistants who apparently specialize in drawing them.

The capstone thing is to make the manga concerning. Of course this is mahjong manga, so you can't avoid drawing mahjong. But another way of looking at it is, since you're covered you can go far in mahjong in 20 seconds, you're free to draw anything, you like. Can this make it a little "interesting"? I once saw this amazing thing (Kung fu TV drama where the characters were fighting and playing mahjong at the same time! Imagine the potential! If our stars, imagine Koyasu and Mr. Matsui on a psychic mahjong battle!



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FACE!! THE BLUFF

If mahjong could be summed up in one word, it'd be "bluffing." Mahjong manga, of course, mostly consists of mahjong games, so most mahjong manga characters are only depicted from the waist up. That's where you gotta concentrate. It makes things easier, in some ways. In other ways, it's a real pain in the butt. Frankly, developing an enthralling story within these limitations requires a lot of skill. So we return now to the main topic of this column: bluffing—or more specifically, 1) bluffing gestures, 2) bluffing words, and most important, 3) bluffing faces. With these three "bluffs," readers' minds can be damaged!

The first frame has to be as good as the opening scene of *Jar Head*: A cloud of dust along a row of tiles! Before the reader can say, "This is ridiculous"—a new star explodes in the protagonist's background! Even the most advanced Hollywood



• There must be more deadly characters in your life than your mahjong manga after dark! (That's a warning, those ideas of a young man's manga require.)

technology couldn't render this story!

And finally the face! The face of men who have seen the world! Frankly, if you can draw faces well, then you're gonna be a winner. Don't say you can't. You could always resort to copying photos. For some reason, manga magazine editors always have the right face. Good luck!











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